REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance of the above-identified application are respectfully requested. Claims 1-9 remain pending, wherein it is proposed to amend claim 1. Entry of the amendment to claim 1 in the period after a final rejection is appropriate because the amendment addresses an objection to the specification and rejection of the claim under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph. Accordingly, this amendment does not raise new issues that would require further search and/or examination.

The specification is objected to and claim 1 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph. Claim 1 has been amended to address the objection and rejection. Accordingly, withdrawal of the objection and rejection is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as unpatentable over European patent document EP 0 944 203 A2 ("Turunen") in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,563,800 to Salo et al. ("Salo") and Mouly et al., "GSM System for Mobile Communications" ("Mouly"). This ground of rejection is respectfully traversed.

The combination of Turunen, Salo and Mouly does not render Applicants' claim 1 obvious because the combination does not disclose or suggest all of the elements of Applicants' claim 1. For example, the combination does not disclose or suggest a home authentication, authorization and accounting server (HAAA) and a visitor authenticating authorization and accounting (VAAA) server. The

combination also does not disclose or suggest that "identity information sufficient to enable said VAAA server to communicate with said HAAA server so as to authenticate the proposed connection" is conveyed by user intervention to the VAAA server. Additionally, the combination does not disclose or suggest that "the PIN is encoded and forwarded to the user's mobile telephone and transferred to the browser to authenticate the requested visiting access to the W-LAN." Moreover, the combination does not disclose or suggest that "the cost of such access is billed to the user's cellular mobile account."

Turunen discloses a system for mobile internet access that allows a mobile internet-access host 9 to roam from a local area network 3 to a GSM network 6 or "Hot spot LAN" 7 or 8. When mobile host 9 roams, it deregisters from local area network 3 and registers with GSM network 6. The local area network's home agent HA sends an internet security key via GSM Short Message Service (SMS) to mobile terminal 9. Mobile terminal 9 then sends its new address with authentication data generated using the security key to the home agent HA.

The Office Action states that the foreign agent FA of Turunen corresponds to the visitor authentication, authorization and accounting (VAAA) server of Applicants' claim 1, and that the home agent HA of Turunen corresponds to the home authentication, authorization and accounting (HAAA) server of Applicants' claim 1. However, Turunen is completely silent on either the home agent HA or foreign agent FA having any type of accounting function. Accordingly, the home agent HA of Turunen cannot correspond to the HAAA of Applicants' claim 1 and

Amendment Dated: April 5, 2006

Reply to Office Action Mailed November 7, 2005

Attorney Docket No. 3036/50289

the foreign agent FA of Turunen cannot correspond to the FAAA of Applicants'

claim 1.

Regarding conveying to the VAAA server by user intervention identity

information, the Office Action states that a user moving the mobile host to a

foreign network corresponds to the user intervention. However, Applicants'

claim 1 recites that the identity information is conveyed "by user intervention"

and not merely that after a user moves a mobile host that the host automatically

sends information to its home agent HA as disclosed by Turunen.

Additionally, Turunen discloses that mobile terminal 9 receives the

internet security key from the home agent and an internet address from the

foreign agent. Mobile terminal 9 then sends this internet address with

authentication data to the home agent HA of local area network 3. In contrast,

Applicants' claim 1 recites that the "identity information sufficient to enable said

VAAA server to communicate with said HAAA server so as to authenticate the

proposed connection". There is no disclosure or suggestion in Turunen of the

foreign agent FA being enabled by the received identity information to

communicate with the home agent HA as would be required to reject Applicants'

claim 1 under the reasoning provided by the Office Action.

Moreover, Turunen does not disclose or suggest that the PIN forwarded to

"the user's mobile telephone [is] transferred to the browser to authenticate the

requested visiting access to the W-LAN." Instead, in Turunen mobile terminal 9

Page 7 of 14

Amendment Dated: April 5, 2006

Reply to Office Action Mailed November 7, 2005

Attorney Docket No. 3036/50289

sends authentication data, derived from the internet security key, to the home

agent HA. Turunen does not disclose or suggest that the internet security key,

or the authentication data derived from the key, is used by a browser to

"authenticate the requested visiting access to the W-LAN." In other words,

Turunen does not disclose or suggest that the internet security key or anything

derived from the key is used for authenticating access to the first W-LAN.

Turunen also does not disclose or suggest that "the cost of such access is

billed to the user's cellular mobile account." Turunen is completely silent on

billing for access, and accordingly, cannot disclose or suggest billing such access

to a cellular mobile account.

Salo does not remedy any of the above-identified deficiencies of Turunen

with respect to Applicants' claim 1. Salo discloses a system for a remote access

device to obtain data from a data center. Referring now to Figure 2 of Salo, a

subscriber inputs an address of an enterprise network into a browser, and the

user is prompted by a login server (LS) 142 for login credentials and a personal

identification number (PIN). When the proper credentials and PIN are input by

the user, the user is provided access to data from the data center. However,

Salo, like Turunen, is completely silent on accounting functions. Accordingly,

Salo cannot disclose or suggest a visitor authentication, authorization and

accounting (VAAA) server or home authentication, authorization and accounting

(HAAA) server as recited in Applicants' claim 1. Moreover, Salo cannot disclose

Page 8 of 14

Amendment Dated: April 5, 2006

Reply to Office Action Mailed November 7, 2005

Attorney Docket No. 3036/50289

or suggest that "the cost of such access is billed to the user's cellular mobile

account."

Additionally, Salo does not disclose or suggest conveying identity

information to a VAAA server as a result of user intervention or a VAAA server

communicating with an HAAA server to authenticate the proposed connection as

recited in Applicants' claim 1.

Regarding the use of the PIN, Salo discloses that this is used for

authenticating with the data center, and not "to authenticate the requested

visiting access to the W-LAN" as recited in Applicants' claim 1.

Mouly provides a general description of the GSM network. However,

Mouly does not disclose or suggest "a visitor authentication, authorization and

accounting (VAAA) server or home authentication, authorization and accounting

(HAAA) server", a VAAA server communicating with an HAAA server to

authenticate the proposed connection, or that a PIN is used "to authenticate the

requested visiting access to the W-LAN' as recited in Applicants' claim 1.

The Office Action relies upon Mouly for the disclosure of management

standards for GSM networks. The Office Action concludes that "a user

employing the GSM network for internet access would be billed for the services

he consumes, and that the billing would be applied to the account he uses to

obtain such services." This statement demonstrates that the application of

Mouly in the rejection of Applicants' claim 1 is based upon a misinterpretation of

Page 9 of 14

the plain language of the claim. In particular, Applicants' claim 1 specifically

recites that the PIN is "transferred to the browser to authenticate the requested

visiting access to the W-LAN." Mouly is directed to a GSM network, and is

completely silent on providing access to a W-LAN. Accordingly, Mouly and the

Office Action have not provided any disclosure or suggestion of billing a user'

cellular mobile account for "requested visiting access to" a wireless LAN as

recited in Applicants' claim 1.

Because Turunen, Salo and Mouly all do not disclose or suggest "identity

information sufficient to enable said VAAA server to communicate with said

HAAA server so as to authenticate the proposed connection" is conveyed by user

intervention to the VAAA server, that "the PIN is encoded and forwarded to the

user's mobile telephone and transferred to the browser to authenticate the

requested visiting access to the W-LAN," and that "the cost of such access is

billed to the user's cellular mobile account" as recited in Applicants' claim 1, the

combination cannot render Applicants' claim 1 unpatentable.

Claims 2, 4, 8 and 9 all variously depend from Applicants' claim 1, and

accordingly, are not obvious in view of the combination of Turunen, Salo and

Mouly for at least those reasons stated above with regard to claim 1.

The combination of Turunen, Salo and Mouly does not render Applicants'

claim 3 obvious because the combination does not disclose or suggest "the

portable computing device is coupled to the mobile telephone, and the transfer of

Page 10 of 14

Amendment Dated: April 5, 2006

Reply to Office Action Mailed November 7, 2005

Attorney Docket No. 3036/50289

the PIN to the browser is effected automatically by means including software supported by the portable computing device".

Instead of providing a prior art reference disclosing or suggesting the elements of claim 3, the Office Action cites In re Venner, 262 F.2d 91, 95 (CCPA 1958) for the proposition that automating an manual activity is obvious. As discussed in M.P.E.P. § § 2144 and 2144.04, the examiner may rely upon legal precedent when "the facts in a prior legal decision are sufficiently similar to those in an application under examination." (emphasis added). In re Venner is directed to a permanent mold casting apparatus that the court held broadly provides "an automatic or mechanical means to replace a manual activity which accomplished the same result is not sufficient to distinguish over the prior art." (M.P.E.P. § 2144.04 III.). Because In re Venner is directed to a permanent mold casting apparatus and not an access authentication system as recited in Applicants' claim 3, the facts of In re Venner are not sufficiently similar to those of the claims currently being examined. Additionally, unlike the claims in In re Venner that "broadly" provided an automatic means to replace a manual activity, Applicants' claim 3 recites particular structure, such as including software supported by the portable computing device, that transfers the PIN, thereby further highlighting the inapplicability of In re Venner to the claims currently under examination.

Because the case law relied upon by the Office Action is not applicable to the facts claim 3, and because the Office Action has not provided a prior art reference that discloses or suggests all of the elements of this claim, the Office

Amendment Dated: April 5, 2006

Reply to Office Action Mailed November 7, 2005

Attorney Docket No. 3036/50289

Action has not provided enough information to establish a prima facie case of

obviousness with respect to claim 3.

The combination of Turunen, Salo and Mouly does not render Applicants'

claim 5 obvious because the combination does not disclose or suggest "the user

employs the browser to convey said identity information, via the first W-LAN, to

the VAAA." To reject claim 5 the Office Action cites sending a care-of-address

from a mobile host to the host's home network disclosed in col. 3, lines 50-55 of

Turunen, and the use of a web browser to send a PIN to a login server disclosed

in col. 9, lines 4-17 of Salo. However, the care-of-address of Turunen and the

PIN of Salo serve completely different purposes and, therefore, cannot be

identified as the same element. While the care-of-address of Turunen is sent to

the home network in order to enable the home network to redirect datagrams to

that new care-of-address, the PIN of Salo is used to authenticate the access to

the remote access device. Accordingly, it appears that the rejection of claim 5 is

based upon improper hindsight reconstruction in which various elements of

Turunen and Salo are selected for the sole purpose of rejecting Applicants' claim

5, and not because one skilled in the art would have considered the combination

of such elements obvious.

The combination of Turunen, Salo and Mouly does not render Applicants'

claims 6 and 7 obvious because the combination does not disclose or suggest that

"the PIN is combined with masking information" as recited in claim 6 or that

"said masking information is randomly derived" as recited in claim 7. The Office

Page 12 of 14

Amendment Dated: April 5, 2006

Reply to Office Action Mailed November 7, 2005

Attorney Docket No. 3036/50289

Action relies upon the GSM encryption as corresponding to the masking

information recited in Applicants' claims 6 and 7. However, a mere encoding of

an authentication key cannot be regarded as a combination with masking

information, but instead, the authentication key of Turunen is transmitted as

such.

For at least those reasons stated above, it is respectfully requested that

the rejection of claims 1-9 as being obvious in view of the combination of

Turunen, Salo and Mouly be withdrawn.

In light of the foregoing remarks, this application should be in condition

for allowance, and early passage of this case to issue is respectfully requested. If

there are any questions regarding this amendment or the application in general,

a telephone call to the undersigned would be appreciated since this should

expedite the prosecution of the application for all concerned.

Page 13 of 14

Serial No. 09/960,396 Amendment Dated: April 5, 2006 Reply to Office Action Mailed November 7, 2005 Attorney Docket No. 3036/50289

If necessary to effect a timely response, this paper should be considered as a petition for an Extension of Time sufficient to effect a timely response, and please charge any deficiency in fees or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 05-1323 (Docket #3036/50289).

Respectfully submitted,

Registration No. 43,420

Stephen W. Palan

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CROWELL & MORING LLP Intellectual Property Group P.O. Box 14300 Washington, DC 20044-4300 Telephone No.: (202) 624-2500

Facsimile No.: (202) 628-8844

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